Attorney Docket No.: 22940/2
USSN: 09/650,584
Group Art Unit No.: 3731

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 27 and 34 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend claims 1, 24, 26, 31, 32 and 33 as shown below.

1 . (Currently Amended) A torsion resistant scleral-tensioning stent for positioning in a tunnel formed intrasclerally in a globe of an eye, comprising:

a generally t-shaped body ~~as seen in the intersection arms and~~ having a cross portion with a top surface, a bottom surface and a leg portion extending substantially perpendicularly from a side surface of said cross portion;

said leg portion having a top surface, a bottom surface with an arcuate portion and a substantially planar portion at an end of said leg portion distal from said cross portion;

wherein said arcuate portion has a radius of curvature from about 8 mm to about 9 mm;

wherein said top surfaces of said cross portion and said leg portion define a t-shaped configuration; and

wherein said bottom surface of said cross portion is dimensioned to be disposed external to said tunnel for resisting torsional forces on said leg portion.

2. (Original) The stent of Claim 1 wherein said cross portion extends beyond said tunnel.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The stent of Claim 1 wherein is said stent is out-gassing free

6. (Original) The stent of Claim 5 comprising thermosetting PMMA.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The stent of Claim 1 wherein said stent is arcuate biased.

9.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 1 wherein the cross portion is flat on the bottom surface.

12. (Original) The stent of Claim 1 wherein the distal end of the stent is tapered.

13.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A scleral-tensioning stent for positioning in a tunnel formed intrasclerally in a globe of an eye, comprising:

an elongated portion having a top surface and a bottom surface, the bottom surface forming an arc along a portion of a length of the elongated portion; ~~and~~

a flange, integrally formed with and at a first[,] distal end of the elongated portion and oriented perpendicularly to the elongated portion, having a top surface, a bottom surface and a length wider than a width of the first end of the elongated portion~~.~~; the flange is flat on the bottom surface;

wherein the bottom surface of a second end of the elongated portion, opposite the first distal end, forms a flat surface; and

wherein said top surfaces of said elongated portion and said flange define a t-shaped configuration.

25. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 24, wherein the arc is of a smaller radius than a radius of the globe of the eye proximate to the tunnel.

26. (Currently Amended) The stent of Claim 24, wherein the arc ends at the first distal end of the elongated portion at the flange.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 24, wherein the top surface of the elongated portion is narrower than the bottom surface of the elongated portion.

29. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 24, wherein the elongated portion is arcuate along its length.

30. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 24, wherein the arc has a radius of about 8 to about 9 mm.

31. (Currently Amended) The stent of Claim 1, wherein ~~a~~ the top surface of the leg portion is narrower than the bottom surface of the leg portion.

32. (Currently Amended) A torsion resistant scleral-tensioning stent for positioning in a tunnel formed intrasclerally in a globe of an eye, comprising:

a generally capital t-shaped body ~~as seen in the intersection arms and~~ having a cross portion with a top surface, a flat bottom surface and a leg portion extending substantially perpendicularly from a side surface of said cross portion;

said leg portion having a top surface, a bottom surface with an arcuate portion and a substantially planar portion at an end of said leg portion distal from said cross portion; ~~and~~

wherein said top surfaces of said cross portion and said leg portion define a t-shaped configuration; and

wherein said bottom surface of said cross portion is dimensioned to be disposed external to said tunnel for resisting torsional forces on said leg portion.

33. (Currently Amended) A scleral-tensioning stent for positioning in a tunnel formed intrasclerally in a globe of an eye, comprising:

an elongated portion having a top surface and a bottom surface, the bottom surface forming an arc along a portion of a length of the elongated portion; ~~and~~

a flange, integrally formed with and at a first end of the elongated portion and oriented

perpendicularly to the elongated portion, having a top surface, a bottom surface and a length wider than a width of the first end of the elongated portion to form the shape of a capital T;

wherein said top surfaces of said elongated portion and said flange define a t-shaped configuration; and

wherein the top surface of the elongated portion is narrower than the bottom surface of the elongated portion.

34. (Cancelled)